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Agenda items 11, 17, 27, 66 and 108 (o)

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Security Council
Sixty-first year

Letter dated 6 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward to you herewith the Statement on Nagorno-Karabakh adopted by the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in Brussels on 5 December 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 11, 17, 27, 66 and 108 (o), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Armen **Martirosyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 6 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement on Nagorno-Karabakh

We are encouraged that negotiations in 2006, facilitated by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and supported by the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, have brought the sides closer to agreement on the basic principles for the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

We welcome the support of the leaders of the G8 to these efforts, expressed at the G8 Summit in St. Petersburg in July.

We urge the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan to redouble their efforts in the coming year to finalize these basic principles as soon as possible.

We call on the sides, with the assistance of the international community, to extend co-operation to conduct an environmental operation to suppress the fires in the affected territories and to overcome their detrimental consequences. These measures can constitute significant steps toward restoring confidence between the sides. The OSCE is available to assist.

We also express our continuing support for the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office and his mission to the region, and particularly for their efficient assistance to the Environmental Assessment Mission and for their ongoing monitoring of the ceasefire. We regret that incidents along the front lines continue occasionally to result in loss of life and call on both sides to adhere strictly to the ceasefire.